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LIGENCE GROUP

124968

COUNTRY

Germany (All Zones)

DATE:

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INFO.

PAGES

SUBJECT

SED Plans to Increase Production in the Eastern Zone; Training of KPD Newspaper Editors in the DIST.

November 1947

Western Zones

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

L. Current SED plans, as outlined by Walter Ulbricht and Otto Grotewohl, provide for a campaign to increase production and combat the waxing demoralization and lassitude of workers in the Eastern Zone. In connection with this, the SED will propose and support laws for the severe punishment of shirkers and saboteurs. When the matter was first discussed, Klink of the Economic Division of the Central Secretariat expressed the opinion that work camps would do nothing to raise the morale of the workers and little to correct prevalent abuses; his suggestion of a system of bomuses, however, was flatly rejected by Ulbricht. Brastic measures are also to be taken to prevent compensation deals and black market activities. At present, between thirty and forty per cent of the goods produced in Samony and Samony-Anhalt disappear on the black market.

Between 10 and 25 October 1947, Lex Ende, managing editor of Neues Deutschland, and Spangenberg, chief of the western edition, will tour the western zones for purposes of collecting information. In accordance with a new policy, whereby three or four editors from the western zones will be employed on the paper for periods of a few months. Bockdel, a resident of Herne (A52) in Westphalia, has been appointed an editor of the Neues Deutschland for eight weeks. This system will forestall possible mistakes in the treatment of political or economic problems of the western zones, at the same time furnishing western zonal editors with valuable 62perience for their future work. The SMA has ordered that the Meues Deutschland appear in an edition of about one million two hundred thousand copies; more than half of these will be shipped to the western zones.

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CLASSIFICATION

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Next Review Date: 2008